



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lava Beds  
National Monument

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## Lava Beds National Monument News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Lava Beds National Monument Announces New Visitor Center Hours

TULELAKE, CA – Beginning January 1, 2016, the Lava Beds National Monument Visitor Center will be open 9:00 am - 4:30 pm daily. These winter hours will now regularly be maintained Labor Day through Memorial Day. During the summer season, Memorial Day to Labor Day, hours will be extended to 9:00 am-5:30 pm.

“These new hours are to better serve our changing visitor trends,” states Chief of Visitor Services Patrick Taylor. “The vast majority of our visitors are coming from Klamath Falls, Redding, Crater Lake National Park, or Lassen Volcanic National Park. Consequently, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm we consistently see a spike in visitation. These new hours will allow us to have more staff available in the middle of the day when the need is the greatest. Additionally, by reducing the visitor center hours slightly, we will be able to offer campfire programs on a more regular basis.” Evening programs have largely been sacrificed over the past few years with reduced staffing and an increasing number of visitors going to the visitor center.

Superintendent Larry Whalon further elaborated that the type of visitors to Lava Beds National Monument has changed over the past decade. “We now communicate with the public via Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and email in addition to the traditional means like at the front desk and through phone calls and letters. Allowing staff time to communicate with visitors more before their visit will make for better experiences. These new hours also bring us into closer alignment with other National Park Service visitor center hours.”

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

When visiting Lava Beds National Monument, visitors are reminded that a cave permit and an entrance fee are required. While entrance fees can be handled via a self-pay system, a cave permit can only be obtained from the visitor center or entrance station. Visitors should arrive within the appropriate time frame if they are planning to visit a cave.

Questions regarding the new visitor center hours can be directed to Patrick Taylor at (530) 667-8110.

General information or inquiries can be made by calling (530) 667-8113 or by visiting the following sites:

[www.nps.gov/labe](http://www.nps.gov/labe)

[www.facebook.com/lavabedsnm](https://www.facebook.com/lavabedsnm)

[www.twitter.com/lavabedsnps](https://www.twitter.com/lavabedsnps)

[www.instagram.com/lavabedsnps](https://www.instagram.com/lavabedsnps)

[www.youtube.com/lavabedsnps](https://www.youtube.com/lavabedsnps)

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*Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!*

*For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8113, email [labe\\_interpretation@nps.gov](mailto:labe_interpretation@nps.gov), or go to [www.nps.gov/labe](http://www.nps.gov/labe). Also, visit the park's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) pages.*

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